

Appl. No. 09/829,774
Amdt. dated April 10, 2003
Reply to Office Action of May 21, 2003

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, and 14-38 are pending in this application. Claims 18-34 have been previously withdrawn in view of the Examiner's earlier restriction requirement. Claim 37 has been canceled without prejudice, and claims 39-43 have been added.

In the Office action mailed May 21, 2003, the Examiner rejected all pending claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14-17 and 35-38. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 11, 15, 16 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sutton in view of Ohmory et al. Claims 1, 4, 9, 12 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dugan in view of Ohmory et al. or Kalde et al. Claims 1, 6, 9, 11, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gueve et al. in view of Ohmory et al. or Kalde et al. Claims 14, 35, 36 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sutton in view of Kalde et al., and further in view of Rosenstein. Claims 14, 35, 36 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guevel et al. in view of Kalde et al., and further in view of Rosenstein.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims, as amended, are patentable over the cited prior art. Claims 1 and 9 are the only independent claims of the present application. Claim 1 has been amended to recite a composite yarn comprising a metallic wire, a fluid-soluble strand and an elastomeric strand. When used to form an intermediate fabric product, such as a glove, the elastomeric strand of the composite yarn helps retain the fabric product's predetermined shape after the fluid-soluble strand has been dissolved.

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Claim 9 is directed to an intermediate fabric product comprising a composite yarn comprised of a metallic wire for cut resistance, a fluid-soluble strand for dissolving, and an elastomeric strand for retaining a predetermined shape of the intermediate fabric product after the fluid-soluble strand is dissolved.

None of the cited prior art discloses or suggests a composite yarn comprising a metallic wire, a fluid-soluble strand and an elastomeric strand. Sutton (column 4, lines 16-17) discloses applying a flexible urethane coating to a protective garment. Sutton does not disclose a protective garment made from a composite yarn having an elastomer strand as an integral component. The strand material disclosed by Sutton is merely entwined strands of a metallic material and a transitory soluble material. Sutton does not teach or suggest a composite yarn that includes an elastomeric strand.

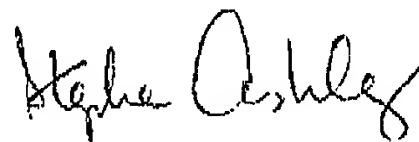
None of the cited prior art discloses or suggests the composite yarn as claimed in amended claim 1, or the intermediate fabric product of amended claim 9. As such, claims 1 and 9 are in a condition for allowance. All remaining claims are dependent claims depending on claims 1 or 9 or other dependent claims, and therefore are also in a condition for allowance.

For the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If the Examiner believes that issues remain for discussion in this case, he is invited to contact the undersigned.

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Technology Center 1700; facsimile number (703) 872-9311 to the attention of: Honorable Commissioner of Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 21, 2003. Date of Signature: October 21, 2003.

Signature:



Karen Walker